

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00337 060501Z  
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03 MC-02 IGA-02  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 /059 W  
-----060502 047355 /12

R 060345Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2994

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 0337

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS MU SA  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE UNAUTHORIZED TRANSFER

REF: MUSCAT 0177

1. WE HAVE DEVELOPED FURTHER INFORMATION ON PARACHUTE EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY SAUDIS TO OMAN. REGRET DELAY IN PROVIDING THIS DATA, WHICH DUE TO DIFFICULTY OBTAINING FACTS WITHOUT APPROACH TO OMANGOV, A METHOD THAT WE HAVE AVOIDED. WE DID, HOWEVER, APPROACH BRITISH MILATT WHO QUIETLY INQUIRED ON OUR BEHALF AND IS SOURCE FOR MUCH OF INFO BELOW. HE SUPPLIES IT ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS--THOUGH WE ASSUME NOT WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF BRITISH OFFICERS SECONDED TO SULTANATE OF OMAN AIR FORCE (SOAF).

2. SAUDIS HAVE BULT AND EQUIPPED PARACHUTE CENTER AT SEEB, WHICH IS USED FOR CONTINUATION TRAINING OF SOAF'S ONE SQUADRON OF PARATROOPERS. SAUDI INSTRUCTORS COME ONCE EVERY TWO MONTHS WITH AIRCRAFT FOR TRAINING. AIRCRAFT RETURN TO SAUDI ARABIA AFTER EACH SESSION.

3. AMONG SAUDI-SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT ARE 200 PARACHUTES, 200 HELMETS, AND SOME OTHER GEAR. (ULTIMATE SIZE OF OMANI SQUADRON PLANNED TO REACH NEARLY 200.) THIS EQUIPMENT IS AMERICAN IN ORIGIN. IT WAS GIFT AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE RETURNED,  
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PAGE 02 MUSCAT 00337 060501Z

ALTHOUGH POSSIBLY NO FORMAL TRANSFER AGREEMENT WAS ENTERED INTO.

4. EVIDENT PURPOSE OF THIS GIFT WAS TO PROVIDE OMANIS WITH "STARTER KIT". THUS, FURTHER SUCH GIFTS ARE CONSIDERED UNLIKELY.

THIS IS SUBSTANTIATED BY FACT THAT OMANIS ARE CURRENTLY SSEK-ING TO BUY FROM BRITAIN 200 HELMETS FOR PARATROOPERS,

APPARENTLY A REPLACEMENT ORDER LOOKING TO TIM WHEN SAUDI-  
SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT WILL BE USED UP.  
WOLLE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT LOANS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 06-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MUSCAT00337  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770077-0369  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MUSCAT 177  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3192415  
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**TAGS:** MASS, MU, SA  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
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